

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 01364 231235Z

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 AGR-20 AID-20 PA-04 PRS-01 DRC-01 SAM-01

SCA-01 SCSE-00 /130 W

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R 231010Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2908

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS ANKARA 1364

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT,SNAR, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS ON OPIUM POPPY BAN-FEB 22.

1. ALL MAJOR TURKISH PAPERS CARRIED REPORTS OF AMBASSADOR'S THURSDAY MORNING (FEB 21) MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT AND REPORTED ECEVIT'S REPLY. WHEN ASKED IF OPIUM BAN WAS DISCUSSED, " I CANNOT GO INTO DETAILS"., HURRIYET ADDS THAT TURKISH FONOFF OFFICIALS SAY THERE IS NO US-TURKISH AGREEMENT ON OPIUM BAN, THEREFORE QUOTE THERE IS NO QUESTION OF BREAKING A PROMISE IN CASE TURKEY RETURNS TO POPPY CULTIVATION END QUOTE. TERCUMAN REPORTS THAT QUOTE US HAS AGREED TO INCREASE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION END QUOTE.

2. IN FRONT PAGE STORY SURROUNDING PHOTO OF ANBASSADOR AND PRIMIN, GUNAYDIN QUOTES MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE OZAL STATEMENT MADE, ACCORDING TO PAPER, ONE HOUR AFTER AMB/PRIMIN MEETING, THAT GOT WILL PUBLISH DECREE IN JULY, AS REQUIRED BY LAW, ALLOWING RESUMPTION OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN OCTOBER. ASKED ABOUT AGREEMENT WITH U.S., OZAL WAS REPORTED AS SAYING HE KNEW OF NO BINDING AGREEMENT.  
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 01364 231235Z

ASKED ABOUT LEAKAGE TO EUROPE AND U.S., OZAL REPORTEDLY SAID THAT

THERE WAS NO DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT LARGE AMOUNTS CAME FROM TURKEY.

3. SEVERAL PAPERS AND TV NEWS QUOTE PRIMIN ECEVIT AS TELLING PROVINCIAL WELL-WISHERS THURSDAY AFTERNOON QUOTE WE WILL QUICKLY RESOLVE THE POPPY QUESTION. I EXPECT TO MAKE THE POPPY GROWERS HAPPY THIS MONTH END QUOTE.

4. GUNAYDIN CITES TURKISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON REPORT THAT U.S. PRESS INTEREST IN TURKEY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD OPIUM BAN IS GROWING. ARTICLE NOTES THAT BALTIMORE SUN COMPLAINS USG NOT INFORMED OF GOT INTENTION TO RESCIND BAN, WHILE PHILDELPHIA ENQUIRER DEMANDS USG PRESSURE ON GOT TO CHANGE DECISION. ARTICLE NOTES U.S. PRESS SIMULTANEOUSLY DEMANDS RELEASE OF AMERICAN JAILED IN TURKEY ON DRUG CHARGES.  
MACOMBER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, OPIUM, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AGREEMENTS, AGRICULTURAL POLICIES  
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**TAGS:** PINT, SNAR, TU  
**To:** STATE  
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